

Tex-Tin NPL

Case History: The 170 acre [Tex-Tin Superfund](#) site is located near La Marque, Galveston County, Texas. This facility is an inactive tin and copper smelter and contaminants were found in soils, groundwater and surface water, including the Swan Lake ecosystem and associated salt marsh habitats. Major contaminants identified were arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead and nickel as well as low-level radioactive compounds. In September, 1999, the Trustees entered into settlement negotiations with the Responsible Parties (RPs), through the Department of Justice (DOJ). A Consent Decree was signed in August 2000, with DOI-FWS concurrence, which provided for the creation of 93 acres of salt marsh habitat behind a 5,200 foot rock breakwater that was constructed as part of the remedy. This breakwater is key to the Trustee's restoration options. The breakwater replaced the natural breakwater that subsided and eroded over time. It protects "all" of Swan Lake and prevents buried contaminated sediments from eroding and becoming available. The Trustees requested the breakwater as a critical condition to EPA's remedial decision to leaving buried contaminants in Swan Lake.



Responsible Parties: Amoco Chemical Co., et.al., Tex-Tin Corp., Amalgamet Corp, BHP Copper Co., Celanese Chemical Co., Chevron USA, Cookson Entities, Cyprus Amax Minerals Co., E.I. DuPont Co., Exxon Mobil Corp., General Electric Co., Kaiser Aluminum Co., Lyondell Chemical Co., Mobile Oil Co., Monsanto Co., Phillips Petroleum Co., Shell Oil Co., Union Carbide Corp.

Trustees:

[Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#) (TPWD)

[Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#) (TCEQ)

[Texas General Land Office](#) (TXGLO)

[NOAA](#)

[DOI-FWS](#)

The Authorized Official designation was awarded to DOI-FWS in March 2000.

Current Status: A [Tex-Tin Restoration Plan](#) was completed in 2001. The trustees preferred restoration alternative was to create approximately 93 acres of intertidal marsh on the leeward side of the breakwater /wave barrier along the eastern border of Swan Lake. The marsh was constructed using clean dredge material moved from a containment area adjacent to the restoration site. Marsh construction is in the final stages of completion and planting is scheduled for spring 2007. Due to a lack of dredge material, only 70 of the 93 acres of marsh were constructed. Several hundred thousand dollars remaining in the Tex-Tin settlement after planting the constructed wetlands will be used to acquire conservation easement on property in the Galveston Bay area. Trustees are currently looking at several land preservation alternatives at this time and will amend the Restoration Plan as needed. Total settlement for NRDAR damages, including restoration planning and implementation costs, is \$3,200,850. The breakwater cost was approximately \$3,500,000.

NOAA – [Site information](#)

Contacts:

[Kenneth Rice](#), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, [Corpus Christi Ecological Services Field Office](#), 361/994-9005

Other Links:

[Region 2 Environmental Contaminants Program Homepage](#)

[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Environmental Contaminants Program Washington Office Homepage](#)